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N. E. FARMER.

THE HONEY BEE.

Conclusion of Mr Oliver's Remarks at the last Agricultural Meeting.

The Moth.—Grayish white or whitish grey millers are about from May to September. By quick motions, they elude the bees, and gain entrance to weak hives; they deposite eggs under the edges of the hive or on the comb, and afterwards you will see a small whitish worm, with a brown hard, head. This worm grows in size till it becomes as large round as a turkey's quill; and it keeps its *body* wrapt up in a cocoon: its head is out, but this is so hard that the bees cannot sting it. Making its silken house over its body as it goes along, this worm eats its way through the comb—destroying the work of the bees, discouraging them, and finally causing their destruction, or at least their expulsion from the hive.

A lighted candle at night may allure and destroy some of them, but it will do the same to some of the bees. The most effectual guard against the moth is to make the hive as tight as possible; to keep the swarm *strong*, by preventing swarmings; to wash the floor-board frequently, and to watch and kill as many of the millers as you can find. Thus you may lessen the evil, though you cannot avoid it entirely.

The only diseases his bees have been subject to are dysentery and vertigo. Dysentery he thinks he has cured by cleansing the hive: the vertigo soon passes off without assistance from the apiarian.

The *louse*, spoken of by Mr Buckminster, he had never seen, nor had he heard of it before.

Feeding.—It is sometimes necessary to feed. The best food is *honey*—and if the hive is not well supplied, it is better to feed in autumn than in winter. A common swarm ought to have 25 lbs. of honey for its winter stores. To put honey outside of the hive, leads to fighting between bees of different hives. A little tin box, with one end passing into the hive and making a sort of trough on the inside for them to feed from, does very well.

The temperature of a hive in the coldest weather, is from 70 to 90°; so that moisture will generally be trickling down the sides. This is often unhealthy; a glass vessel over a hole in the top of the hive, would collect the vapor and condense it, and thus make the condition of the swarm more comfortable.

In spring, when the bees first go out, it encourages and strengthens them, to give them some food.

Vermont Sugar.—Next to Louisiana, Vermont is the greatest *sugar-producing* State in the Union. The amount of maple sugar made there in 1840, was over 2,559 tons: this at 5 cents a pound, is worth $255,963 20. The Montpelier Watchman thinks this is very far below the quantity produced last year, and says that the produce this season will, at the low price of 5 cents, be worth one million of dollars.

DR. PLAYFAIR ON THE PROPERTIES AND CHANGES OF MILK.

Before the Society of Arts in London, Feb. 8, 1843, Dr. Lyon Playfair read a paper "On the Changes and Composition of the Milk of a Cow"—the substance of which, as reported in the London Athenæum of Feb. 25, is as follows:—

The principal object which the author had in view in this paper was, to draw the attention of practical men to the conditions which effect a change in their dairy produce. An improved mode of analyzing milk is described and followed. The cow being in good milking condition, and at the time fed upon after grass, he ascertained the average amount of her milk for five days, and then proceeded to analyze it. In the first day it was observed that the milk of the evening contained 3.7 per cent. of butter, and of the following morning 5.6 per cent. The deficiency in the first observation is referred to the consumption of a greater portion of the butter or its constituents, from respiratory oxidation during the day when the animal was in the field, than during the night, when it was at rest in the stall. When confined during the day, and fed with after grass in a shed, the proportion of butter rose to 5.1 per cent. When fed with hay, the butter was 3.9 and 4.6 per cent.; when fed with portions of potatoes, hay and bean flour, the butter was 6.7 and 4.9 per cent.; with hay and potatoes, 4.6 and 4.9 per cent.

The author then examines Dumas's theory of the origen of fat in animals, in reference to the foregoing experiments, and concludes, in opposition that theory, that the butter in the milk could not have arisen solely from the fat contained in the food, while it may reasonably be referred to the starch and other unazotised elements of the food, as maintained by Liebig. Experiments of Boussingault are quoted in favor of the same conclusion, and observations of dairymen in different localities. Potatoes are particularly favorable to the production of butter, from the starch they contain; so is malt-refuse. Porter and beer are also well known to be favorable to the production of butter, both in the milk of woman and of the cow, although these fluids do not contain fat. The quantity of casein (cheese) in the milk is shown to be dependent on the quantity of albumen in the food supplied on different days to the cow, and to the supposed destruction of the tissues by muscular exercise. Peas and beans are the food which yield most casein. Pasturing in the open field is more favorable to the formation of casein, while stall-feeding is more favorable to the formation of butter. It is also known that the proportion of butter in the milk of woman, is increased by rest and the diminution of the respiratory oxidation.

Cornstalk Sugar.—The manufacture of this has been attempted with success in several parts of the U. States. The Cincinnati Chronicle notices a specimen made in Illinois, which was as good as the New Orleans sugar. It is estimated that an acre of corn will give 1000 lbs. of sugar.

From the Farmer's Monthly Visitor.

MY MOTHER'S BUTTER.

It was as good as ever was made, and so were her pies and *symballs*. Who is there, brought up in the country, that has not the same feeling? Who but reverts to his youthful taste, and as his memory furnishes forth the seasons and times when he enjoyed what he still thinks the best of butter, and of every thing else prepared by a mother's hand, and supplied with an unequalled mother's kindness?

All kinds of modes of making and preserving butter, have been presented again and again. To make it good is now so common, that we have almost forgotten that it can be otherwise; and nothing speaks more favorably of the admitted neatness and excelling carefulness of our unparalleled women.

That man of self-esteem, Dickens, who was in our country, admitted the surpassing excellence of our females in literature, and had he been capable, would no doubt have passed a higher encomium upon them as wives and mothers.

But I am leaving my starting point, and what I thought I should have said ere this, which was not about the mode of making butter, but rather of keeping it for a length of time as good as new.

My mother's mode was to have a barrel about half full of brine, made from Turks' Island (not English) salt, which is the purest as well as strongest. The butter when made, was divided into lumps or rolls of about four pounds each, and put into the brine, and kept below the surface of it by a clean board, cut to fit, with holes in it.

The butter, if well worked at first, never became rancid in the least, and was better twelve months after it was made than at first. The barrel, of course, should be always in a cool cellar—cool in summer, and warm in winter.

The main object in rendering butter proof against spoiling, is to keep it from the air, and when put away, there should be no buttermilk or water in it. I am now speaking of firkin butter.

The Arabs melt their butter over a slow fire, which expels all the watery particles; it will then keep without salt; and the Irish have adopted with success a similar mode for exportation to the East Indies.

The mode of keeping butter in a convenient state for daily use, is what I thought might be new to some of your readers, and which you can, if you think proper, make them acquainted with.

A Farmer.

No young lady *of sense*, cares a fig for a dandy beau, who prides himself more on the cut of his coat and whiskers, than for the more enduring qualities of the head and heart; and what young man *of sense*, would not prefer a wife who can cook and wash, and sew and scrub, as a good housewife does, to one who can sing fashionable music, drum on a piano, talk sentimental nonsense, and repeat whole pages of album poetry.—*Lowell Cour.*

For the N. E. Farmer.

MANURES—POUDRETTE—TURNIP CROP.

No. I.

To Farmers.—I would say, there is nothing of more importance to them than *manure*; and yet many of them *act* as if it was a matter of the least consequence. A man will plow and plant and toil as if he expected *exhausted* nature would yield her increase, without once asking himself the question, Does the soil require any aid? And when they do think of manure, yet it is with so little estimate of what is *the best*, that it really seems of little consequence to them what it is, provided it be what is *called* manure. I desire the attention of the farmer to some few facts for his serious consideration, as it is now the time of year when it calls for it. Do not be offended when I put the question, *Do you know what is manure?—of what it is made?* You will probably say it is *dung*, taken from the *horse-stable* and *cow-yard*. To be sure those articles apparently furnish the means of nourishing plants and vegetables, if properly applied; but that mass of matter which is thus taken will afford no nourishment, or but very little, in comparison to its true value, if not treated and applied properly. Listen and read, for a few minutes, what will surprise many of you.

The value of barn-yard manure, whether of horse or cow dung, if left to be operated upon by the rain and sunshine, will soon have extracted from it the thing called *ammonia*, which it contains, and the refuse mass which is left, will be of little or no value—not sufficient to pay for its cartage to the field. To make the most of barn-yard manure, it ought to be removed day by day, summer and winter, and put *under cover* in some cool place where it will not *ferment*, and should be applied as long dung, or raw manure, and put *under* ground some few inches, as soon in the spring as the season will permit. The only value which there is in that manure, is the *ammonia* which it contains. The ammonia is a vapor or steam which arises from a heap of manure in a state of fermentation, which nourishes and is consumed by plants, and when the fermentation has ceased, and the vapor passed away, the residue is a dead, inert mass of matter, of no value. If you put it in a heap under cover, so that neither the rain or the snow or sun can reach it, yet it is advisable to cover it over with some earthy substance that is porous, and which will absorb and retain the vapor, and not let it pass off into the atmosphere; and when applied to the land, it should be *plowed* under some two or three inches, with the least possible delay. It would even pay the expense of the cart following the plow and filling the furrows with more or less of the dung, as required. The heap of dung should be well covered from time to time, as it increases, with any common earth that is porous or friable, or covered with charcoal made fine, which will absorb and retain the *ammonia* in the heap, if under cover.*

Having explained to you how you may increase the fructifying property of your yard manure fifty fold and more, I now call your attention to another manure called *Poudrette*—the cheapest and the best, as far as yet discovered and known, for it is both *animal* and *vegetable* matter. The *cheapest*, because it saves, in the labor of transportation and application to the soil, more than the price of it, between the use of it and barn-yard manure, that has to be carted 200 yards. It was fairly tested the last year. A boy 14 years of age, manured with poudrette more corn ground than two men with a double team did, in the same time, with barn-yard manure. The poudrette cost the tenant $2 a barrel, and the barn-yard manure was given to him. It proved that the poudrette was the *cheapest*, because the whole cost, including the labor of the boy, was less than was paid for the hire of the team and labor of two men; and the *best*, because at harvest the yield was one-third greater in favor of poudrette.

It is not all gold that glitters—neither is all the poudrette that is manufactured made in a proper manner. The *ammonia* that it contains is all that is of any value in it; and it is to be regretted that the reputation of so valuable a manure has been greatly injured by the bad preparation of it. It is composed of fecal matter, taken from sinks and privies, sometimes called *night soil* and sometimes *Flemish manure*, and has been in use in Europe for more than a century. In France, according to the statement of M. J. Bailey, it takes from five to six years to prepare it. At the Lodi manufactory, near the city of New York, under the direction of Anthony Dey, it is made generally, in good weather, in *one week*. It is prepared by a compound entirely new, which *absorbs* and *retains* the *ammonia*, and is at least 66 per cent. better than what is generally obtained at any other manufactory, as proved by a chemical analysis made by three of the most distinguished chemists in the city of New York—persons who have used the poudrette of the several manufactories, say that Anthony Dey's poudrette *succeeds better than any other*. The office of the company is at No. 43 Liberty street, N. York. The raw material is not exposed to the weather, as in other factories, nor to the action of the *sun*, until the vapor or volatile part is absorbed and the *mephitic gas* rendered *inodorous*. The Lodi manufacturing Company *warrant* their manure, provided the application of it is made according to the printed directions, which are furnished without charge.

Turnip Crop.—It has long been a cause of complaint that the turnip crop is destroyed, as well as all sorts of melons and cucumbers, by the fly or bug, which eats up and destroys the vegetables when they are just coming out of the ground. The Lodi Manufacturing company have prepared an article at the cost of $2 per barrel, containing four measured bushels, which if sowed or sprinkled over the crop when it is coming up, while the dew is on the ground, will drive all animalculæ from it, and effectually protect it from their ravages. This is a *warranted* article. It is also a manure of itself, but has not the strength of poudrette, and it would be well to manure the ground with poudrette, at the rate of 20 bushels to the acre, plowed in from two to three inches deep under ground before the turnip seed is sown.

The Lodi manufacuring company have agents in almost every city or large town in the country, through whom these manures may be ordered, if not, a letter directed to the Company at 43 Liberty street, N. York, will no doubt meet with attention.

March, 1843. AGRICOLA.

*We see nothing in the above positions so peculiarly *novel* as to be likely to excite the "surprise" of any farmer of common intelligence—and our readers, we think, may safely be presumed to be *somewhat* conversant with the nature and value of "the thing called *ammonia*," and with the proper method of managing barn-yard manure: if they are not, it is not because we have neglected to enlighten them on those subjects.—Ed.

☞We do not like the tenor of the preceding communication. It shows a disposition to undervalue stable and barn manure. The general remarks upon manures are not such as any practical farmer would furnish. If they come from one interested in the sale of poudrette manufactured by the Lodi Company—and we presume they do—then our readers can see, as well as we can, the circumstances which will influence the judgment of the writer.

We do not like the substance of the communication. Under cover of the general subject of "Manures," it appears to be the author's chief aim to specify and laud a particular article, manufactured by a particular company, in which we are constrained to infer he has a *particular interest*. There seems to exist, (to borrow a Mesmeric technicality,) a "community of feeling" between his *pocket* and his *pen*. But we are sometimes willing to let others speak in our columns, when their views differ from our own.

Communications, the chief object of which is to "puff" one's own commodities or those in which he is directly interested, and which are of vastly more consequence to *their writers* than to *our readers*, we prefer to receive in the form of *advertisements*, with the author's name affixed: in any other form, we regard them as unworthy of occupying space in our columns to the exclusion of matters of general interest.

We have no practical acquaintance with the Lodi Co.'s poudrette, and can say nothing of its comparative value; but the use of such as others have manufactured, has led us to regard it as good for some gardening purposes, and for forcing early vegetables—but not worth its cost for general use on the farm.

With these remarks, and without recommending the purchase of poudrette *for the farm*, we give insertion, though not very willingly, to the article of "Agricola." But by publishing this, we do not put ourselves under any obligation to insert any thing more from the same source;—and, moreover, if this is the first of a series upon *manures in general*, but the *poudrette of the Lodi Co. in particular*, we cheerfully release the writer from his obligation to forward us the remaining numbers.—Ed. N. E. F.

Silk Manufacture.—The testimony of those who have prosecuted the silk business for a series of years, under ordinary advantages, establishes the fact that silk growing yields a much better profit than ordinary agricultural occupations; and as far as we can judge, there is every probability that the business will sustain itself, even when the bounty laws are repealed. The bounty paid for silk in Massachusetts in 1836, was $71 37: in 1842, to Oct. 1, it was $3351 91.—*N. Y. Jour. Com.*

A foppish young fellow at a ball, in whisking about the room, ran his head against a young lady, for which he began to apologize. "Not a word, sir," cried she, "it is not hard enough to hurt any body."

When Dr. Johnson courted Mrs. Porter, he told her he was of mean extraction, had no money, and had an uncle hanged! To which she replied, that she had no more money than himself; and that although she had not a relation hanged, she had fifty who *deserved hanging*. She became the Dr.'s wife.

From the Farmer's Monthly Visitor.

ON ASHES AND SILICATES.

Mr Hill—I have read in several of the agricultural papers, within a few months past, various accounts of the value of ashes in agriculture, both leached and unleached; and in most cases their application was attended with decidedly beneficial results. But there is a great difference in the value of soapers' leached ashes, and those from the pot or pearl-ash factory. Dr. Dana says, "the soap chandler, in leaching ashes, uses about one peck of lime to each bushel of ashes." This is used for the purpose of taking up the carbonic acid in the ashes, which makes the lye *caustic*; it then readily combines with the oil or grease, and forms soap. The lime used with the ashes is "quick lime," or in other words lime that has had its carbonic acid driven off by the process of burning. After being leached, it is carbonate of lime, from the carbonic acid derived from the ashes, and is chemically the same as before being burnt. Then in 125 bushels from the soapboiler's, we get 100 bushels of leached ashes, and 25 bushels of carbonate of lime. The manufacturer of pot or pearl-ash, covers the bottom of his leach tubs with swingle tow or straw, and puts over it a bushel or two of slacked lime, and does not renew the lime again during the season of making; consequently, there is no lime mixed with the leached ashes from the potash.

From the above facts, every one will see there is a material difference in the value and effects of the two kinds. Therefore the farmer that uses leached ashes from the potash, expecting to realize the same results as those do that make use of soaper's ashes, will be likely to meet with disappointment.

I have never seen Dr. Dana's "Muck Manual," but have read a few extracts as published in the agricultural papers. In one of them, the Doctor goes into a calculation to prove that soils are not exhausted of their lime and ashes by cropping or cultivation. For by his figures he makes out that an acre of soil to the depth of six inches, "contains 3,626 lbs. of lime, and 73,311 lbs. of potash, or nearly 1 3-4 ton of lime, and 36 tons of potash." Well, every farmer must say there is enough in all conscience of lime and potash in his soil;—and I do not at all dispute the Doctor; but if there is that amount, I believe it is nearly insoluble, and therefore of little use. Liebig says the lands in Virginia, by long cultivation, become entirely unproductive in wheat, for *want* of potash in the soil. He says, (if I recollect right, it being more than a year since I have seen his book,) that there is 12 lbs. of potash annually carried off the soil, in the grain and straw of an acre of wheat—1200 lbs. in a hundred years. But according to Dr. Dana's statement, there would be left *there*, in the soil, some 35 tons of potash per acre. Now, Mr Editor, I am a "plain, practical, every-day farmer," and shall not attempt to decide, where learned doctors disagree. But being willing to contribute my mite for the benefit of our *craft*, I will state a few facts, and give my views, with the hope that they may result in further investigations; but not having the happy talent of saying much in a *few* words, I hope you and your readers will excuse the long yarn I am about spinning.

I think I can furnish a few facts, to prove that the application of ashes to the soil in addition to the 36 tons, is attended with beneficial results. I believe also the part that ashes perform in agriculture is not fully understood. The general opinion is, that it acts as a stimulant to the growing plants, and a decomposer of vegetable matter in the soil, and perhaps the above opinion is partially correct. I apprehend the most important part ashes perform in agriculture, is in decomposing *silica*, and rendering it soluble, so as to be taken up by the rootlets of plants, and by proper vessels carried to every part, and there assimilated and aplied to the various purposes for which nature intended it, viz: to form the skeleton of the plant or tree, the glaze on the cornstalk and kernel, the outer covering upon wheat and other straw and grasses, &c. &c. The material of this glaze is derived from that kind of rock called quartz, (sometimes called rock crystal, or white flint stone;) it is dissolved and rendered soluble by an alkali. Some kinds of trees require a much larger quantity in their structure than others, and produce a much greater amount of ashes, upon being burnt. The burning of wood converts it again to silica; the insoluble part of ashes is mostly silex. Oak requires a much larger amount, as it is much heavier than pine wood. To prove the solubility of silica by potash, I will state a few plain facts, because we common farmers want facts, and illustrated in a way that we can understand them. From the fact that lye dissolves the silica in wood, tubs for leaching ashes are usually made of pine, as they are not so powerfully acted upon by the lye as if they were made of oak. An oak tub, after having been used a few times for a leach tub, would have its silica dissolved, and a stave 4 inches in width, upon being dried, would shrink to two inches, wholly in consequence of the dissolving of the silica (gritty part.) But the ashes do not operate upon the vegetable tissue or fibre of the wood.

When it was the custom of farmers' wives and daughters to spin their thread from flax, the next process was to boil it out in *lye*, to soften and remove the harshness of the thread by dissolving the minute particles of silex, but it did not destroy the strength of the vegetable texture. Manufacturers of paper from straw, go upon this principle: the straw is boiled in lime-water or lye, the glaze upon it is dissolved, and the vegetable fibre is unharmed. From these facts, then, it would seem the alkali acted upon the inorganic, rather than upon the organic or vegetable matter.

Dr. Dana's statement of the amount of potash in the soil, may be correct: but I will try to prove that I am right in my conjecture as to its being insoluble, and therefore inert. Common granite is the prevailing rock in New England, and is composed of three different minerals—quartz, felspar and mica. Quartz is supposed to be of an acid nature—felspar contains 12 to 15 per cent. of potash—mica from 5 to 8 per cent. of potash. Chemists tell us that the rootlets of living plants and trees have the power of decomposing *granite* rock, to obtain the potash we find in their ashes. 'T is said, "the living plant is a consummate analist." I will, though with much diffidence, give you my theory of plants decomposing rocks.

The decomposition of vegetable matter always produces an acid—or in other words, the decaying or rotting, or more properly, the slow combustion of vegetable matter partially converts it into carbon. The oxygen of water combines with the carbon and produces carbonic acid. This acid in its liquid and gaseous form, having an affinity for the alkali in the rock, dissolves it; the alkali dissolves the silica, (quartz,) and by the endosmose principle of the living plant, the water holding these in solution, is drawn up by the rootlets, and these salts disposed of and assimilated to the purposes designed by the first great cause. In proof of this position, I forward you a piece of rock, not acted upon by the "living plant," but by decomposing vegetable matter, and it will convey to your mind a better idea of my meaning than I can by the pen.

In some situations, there is a superabundance of alkali and silica—in others just the quantum needed; and in others a deficiency. These propositions I think I can explain to the satisfaction of you and your readers. Upon the banks of a small river, running through this town, there is frequently a strip of land one or two rods in width, and sometimes several rods in length, a few feet above the bed of the river. Upon every overflow of the banks by a freshet, there is left upon them a deposite of gravel and fine sand; yet every year these strips produce a tolerably heavy crop of redtop grass, generally free from any mixture. When secured in good order for hay, it has every appearance of first-rate winter fodder. Yet our cattle will not eat it, unless driven to the borders of starvation. Again, there is a similar kind of grass, only more wirey and jointed, growing upon our gneiss and granite ledges, and frequently quite a thick growth of it, where the soil is but two or three inches in depth. It is redtop grass, but from its small and narrow leaf and wirey appearance, but few persons would suppose it was the same kind of grass that was growing within six feet of it, where the soil was deeper. The grass on the river bank, from the comminuted and fine particles of quartz, felspar and mica, takes *on* and *in* such a quantity of silica, that it is hard and difficult to masticate, and probably it is not so nutritious as if grown where there was more vegetable matter in the soil. That, upon the ledges, the roots of the grass rest directly upon the rock, and decompose it: this contains more silica, and is harder than that upon the river bank. This establishes my first proposition.

There are other situations where all the necessary constituents for a perfect developement appear to be rightly balanced. With such spots all our farmers are familiar. They are found wherever the wash from rocky or gravelly roads is carried over grass lands: the wheels of carriages and travel on the road are continually grinding to powder the component parts of stones and rocks in the road, which renders their salts soluble. This with the animal and vegetable matters, are sprayed over the ground by every heavy shower; the result is a heavy crop of grass. Herds-grass in such places is frequently found four or five feet in height, standing perfectly erect till mowing time, and affording palatable and nutritious food for cattle. This I offer to sustain my second proposition.

My third was, that there were other spots where there was an absolute deficiency of potash and silica, but an abundance of nutritious matter. Where a piece of land has the wash of a barn, the grass starts early in the spring, and bids fair to yield a great growth of grass; but for want of stamina it frequently falls or lodges before it beards out, and when made into hay it will weigh light according to its bulk: much of this is occasioned by a deficiency of silex. The same results are frequently exhibited on reclaimed meadows, where there is a great amount of decaying vegetable mat-

ter. A compost of manure, with a large quantity of ashes and fine sand, is the right dressing for such spots.

When the primitive growth of wood on our new lands is felled, and burnt upon the ground, and there is sometimes two or three hundred cords per acre and none of the ashes carried off, we almost invariably obtain a heavy crop of wheat or rye. I have known of more than 50 bushels of wheat, or 60 bushels of rye per acre on such lands. The intense heat shivers up the rocks; the great amount of alkali readily dissolves the disintegrated rock, and, in its soluble state, it forms a stiff stalk, with a hard, thick glaze upon the straw, which prevents the rupturing of the sap vessels: the sap, instead of oozing out upon the stalk and rusting, is carried to the head of the grain and fills it with a heavy, plump kernel. The crops of grass that follow for several years, correspond with the grain crops, but ultimately the vegetable matter is used up, and nearly all the *soluble* potash is used up—so that the farmer must resort to the plow and manure to get a fair crop again.

Every practical farmer who has attempted to raise wheat on highly manured land that has been long cultivated, knows that it is liable to lodge, and very frequently to rust or mildew. These two evils might, I think, be nearly remedied by the application of the right amount of ashes—if that *right* amount could be *ascertained* and *obtained* by the farmer. As to the amount, he need not fear of getting on too much, if he will just reflect how much is left upon an acre of burnt land where two or three hundred cords of hard wood is converted to ashes; but in all probability a *very* much less amount would answer. I conceive there is but little difficulty in any or every farmer's obtaining his supply, by plowing up a small patch of sandy or gravelly sward land, and letting the furrows remain till dry, then commence a fire, with a small quantity of wood, and gradually pile on the sods, and very large heaps may thus be converted to ashes. The vegetable matter would be burnt, the particles of quartz, feldspar and mica would be broken and shivered, and thereby rendered soluble, and afford those very salts so essential to a good growth of grain. After the mass had become cool enough to be removed it should be put under cover, to be applied to his wheat ground, after being plowed in the spring. In all probability fifteen or twenty cartloads would have the desired effect, and the good effects would also be felt for several years by the succeeding crops.

Frequently promising crops of wheat are almost entirely destroyed by rust. On highly manured lands, if there happens to be a day or two of warm, steamy, good corn weather, in July or August, at about the time wheat is in the milk, the rush of sap is so great, that if it do not produce apoplexy, it does that which is nearly as bad—it ruptures the *tender* and *inefficient* coating in the stalk; the sap vessels burst; the sap exudes and forms a coat of rust, and the crop is nearly ruined. In some of the agricultural papers the last year, I read an account that wheat never rusted where it was sowed upon an old coal hearth, and that grass and other crops always succeed well and were luxuriant. I think this was attributed to the remains of the charcoal; but perhaps a part might be justly attributed to some other cause—to its furnishing a thicker coat of glaze to the grain, and preventing the rupturing of the sap vessels.

I might cite a great many more facts in addition, to satisfy any one of the benefit of adding to our cultivated soils, potash in a more soluble state than we find it, as locked up in sand, gravel, stones or rocks. You will find some of them in Mr Colman's Fourth Report, viz: Mr Haggerston's compost of peat and barilla; Mr Jarvis's account of glass factory manure; Mr Whipple's statements in regard to the value of saltpetre or nitre--that being about one-half potash; 102 lbs. of nitre contains as much potash as 79 lbs. of pot or pearlash of commerce. He applies about 150 lbs. to the acre.

But ashes are also useful in agriculture for neutralizing acidity in soils, and for the formation of nitre or saltpetre for agricultural purposes.

In the 6th number (June, 1842,) of the Farmer's Monthly Visitor, there is taken from the Albany Cultivator, an article on, or review of, Dr. Dana's Muck Manual. In this article there is a statement made by the Doctor, and another by the reviewer, which I think are calculated to lead to erroneous conclusions. The Doctor says, his first principle in agricultural chemistry is, "one rock, and consequently one soil:"—from this, he lays down his second principle, "that rocks do not affect the vegetation which covers them." The *reviewer* says that "rocks certainly exert a powerful influence on the soil that covers them, in many cases," but this, he says, "is owing to their *physical* condition, and not to their *chemical* constitution." Now I think, to the mind of every farmer, the plain English of the above would be this: All soils are derived from rocks; all rocks are chemically the *same*; ergo, the chemical constituents of rocks never affect vegetation.

For the sake of many of our farmers, I wish the above was true; but the weak and sickly appearance, and light and short crops of corn, we every year see growing upon soils containing sulphurate of iron—iron pyrites—or what farmers more commonly call brimstone rocks, proves the above doctrine untrue. There are six thousand of acres of land in this State, that once yielded heavy crops of corn, that now with a dressing of fifteen or twenty loads of manure, will not give more than the same number of bushels of corn, and without manure it would not yield five bushels per acre; and this decrease in amount of crop, is almost wholly in consequence of sulphurous or sulphuric acid in the soil, derived from the disintegration of rocks containing sulphur and iron. Hundreds of our farmers have dug solid and heavy rocks from the soil, and laid them into wall, and soon the oxygen of the air and water combines with the iron, and it is decomposed and converted to an oxide or rust; this sets the sulphur free, and that combines with oxygen and forms sulphurous or sulphuric acid, according to the amount of oxygen in combination with the sulphur. This renders the soil acid, and unfortunately, the more this land is worked by the plow and harrow, the worse it is, by exposing the stone more and more to the action of the oxygen and eliminating increased quantities of sulphur.

When corn is planted on lands, containing this acid, derived from such rocks, it generally looks well and promising for a few weeks, at least as long as the plant draws its nourishment from the decomposing kernel. But after the rootlets on the main roots are formed, and they begin to fulfil their office, by absorbing water from the soil, a reaction takes place, and the plant remains stationary for several weeks—the leaves assume a reddish purple color, the main root is corroded or rusted off, to the length of one or two inches, and the farmer generally lays all the blame to worms, when in fact, there may not be a dozen in an acre. After a while, a new set of roots start out at the lower joint, but so few and weak, the crop is light, and a large portion of the corn in attempting to cut it, is pulled up at harvesting, by the sickle.

I think upon inquiry among farmers having lands containing this kind of rock, you will find hundreds that will confirm my statements. Here the inquiry may arise, is there any remedy? Yes: unleached ashes will neutralize the acidity of such soils, (precisely as salæratus does sour dough,) by combining with the free acid of the soil and forming a neutral sulphate of potash. But I have my doubts about plaster of Paris being useful on such soils, for it is composed of 40 parts sulphuric acid, (oil of vitriol) and 28 of lime; but the acid is neutralized by the lime, and therefore inert. But reasoning from chemical principles, if we apply to such soils, hydrate or slacked lime, it will combine with the acid of the soil, and the lime will be converted into sulphate of lime—plaster of Paris—and thus remove the free acid from the soil, in the ratio of 40 lbs. of acid to 28 lbs. of lime. It can also be remedied by *very* heavy dressings of manure; but that is not always within the reach of the farmer.

"It is well ascertained that different soils have different properties, prejudicial to the growth of some plants, and favorable to the perfection of others;" and it would be a most fortunate circumstance if these differences in the properties of soils were better understood, and more generally acted upon by the great mass of farmers. Notwithstanding the bad character I have given soils containing sulphur in excess, for growing corn, (and for many other crops it is equally prejudicial,) yet it is peculiarly favorable to the perfection of others. In Jones's "Conversations on Chemistry," page 136, speaking of *sulphur*, he says, "it exists in some vegetables, especially those of a *cruciform tribe*"; that is, the tribe of plants consisting of cabbage, turnip, mustard, radish and cress, of every variety. In some respects this family of plants possesses peculiarities contained in no other tribe.

In the December number of the Genesee Farmer, page 185, there is an extract copied from the Farmer's Journal, Eng., on soils, by Wm. Chatterly, from which I make the following extract:

"The state of chemical combinations, in which the various ingredients of the soil are found, also materially influences its fertility, though such combination should differ somewhat for particular crops: for instance, wheat requires that a portion of *silica* should be in union with *potash*; and for clover, that *sulphur* should exist in the soil in the condition of a soluble sulphate. In confirmation of the above theories, I will relate a few facts that have come under my immediate observation. In 1837, I came into possession of an old farm that had not had a furrow plowed on it for 20 years. In one of the fields there were 12 or 15 acres that had been yearly mowed all this time, and did not average 5 cwt. of hay per acre. Many of the rocks and stones in the soil were of the 'brimstone order.' That spring I plowed about an acre and a half—being, as far as I could judge, the best land of the field, manured with about 20 loads of manure: something over an acre was planted with potatoes, the rest with corn. From the friable appearance of the soil and the long time it had laid in grass, I expected to have raised a good crop; but in July

and August, I observed many of the tops wilted and dead. Upon examination, I found the stalks from the surface of the ground to their roots, entirely corroded or rusted off by some cause to me then inexplicable. I think the crop was less than 80 bushels per acre. The part planted with corn amounted to nothing except for fodder. The next year, ('38,) all except one-tenth of an acre was sowed in oats—rusted bad. The tenth of an acre was manured with about four cartloads of coarse manure, plowed twice, and sowed with ruta baga about 20th of June—harvested 1st of November—trimmed close, and accurately measured, and the yield was 100 bushels—or 1000 per acre. In '39, the produce of turnips was very good. The years '40 and '41, in consequence of drought, the turnip seed mostly failed to vegetate, and what few did, the insects destroyed. The past season, ('42,) I planted three small pieces of land with squashes and pumpkins. They were destroyed by the black bug: one of the pieces was set out with ruta baga plants in July; several very warm days succeeded, and the tops were killed to the surface of the ground; and it was many days before they showed any signs of life. When they were harvested in November, many of them were the largest turnips I ever saw. The other pieces were sowed late in July with English turnip seed, by merely hoeing them in, and nothing farther was done to them till they were harvested. The product was nearly 20 bushels of as fine turnips as ever I saw. I cannot doubt but the sulphur in the soil exerted a beneficial influence upon the growth of the turnips."

My experience of four years in cultivating clover upon this kind of land, fully confirms Mr Chatterly's statements; but from the length of this paper I must forbear to go into particulars.

The opinions I have expressed in this communication, I trust are correct; what I have stated as facts, I believe are so, but if I am in an error, I shall be happy to be set right, as I have no favorite theories that I wish to establish at the expense of truth. LEVI BARTLETT.

Warner, N. H., Feb. 1843.

Early Cucumbers.—The following has been found by the writer an easy and successful way to raise them. Place small pieces of dead turf, as large as one's hand, just below the soil in a hot-bed, and plant the cucumber seed upon them: when the stems are two or three inches long, the pieces of turf are removed, plants, roots and all, to rich garden soil, and they will advance rapidly in growth, and produce fruit two or three weeks earlier than those planted on open ground. Suitable turf is easily obtained where grass has been inverted the previous summer or autumn. The young plants should be set out as soon as they will probably escape the frost.—*Selected.*

Corn Bees-wax.—Some rogue has been supplying the merchants of St. Louis with large quantities of "bees-wax" made chiefly of corn-meal. He sold to one house several hundred pounds, at 22 cts. per lb., being about 2 cts. less than the price of the genuine. Five parts of the corn-meal were combined by a chemical process with one part of bees-wax, and the whole run into a cake, which, (says the St. Louis Republican,) would defy the judgment of the best connoisseur.

Look not to the praise of men for your deeds, but rather regard the decision of conscience.

From the Boston Cultivator.

MUSCLES AS MANURE.

Having often seen a request in your paper that farmers would write to you, giving their experience, and having had some experience in the article of muscles (or Mytulus) as a manure, I here give you what information I can respecting them.

I have used muscles two years as a top-dressing on my mowing lands, and the result has far surpassed my most sanguine expectations. My first experiment was with twentyone cartloads. It was spread as follows, in heaps of six shovels full in a heap—the heaps were ten feet apart—where it remained until the next spring; and after the frost was well out of the ground, it was spread, care being taken that none should remain on the spot where the heap stood. The result was as follows: I cut that season four tons of good English hay, and the year before I cut but one ton on the same piece. I will also state that there was large quantities of Roman wormwood on the land before I spread muscles on it, and it has been all killed out in this manner.

Muscle beds are found in most of our harbors, and amongst our islands on the coast. The way that we procure them in this place is by means of a scow. I live about four miles from a muscle bed. I take two men with me; we generally start on the first of the ebb tide, so as to get on to the bed before the tide leaves it; then we get out on the bed, and shovel in on both sides; we load the scow in about an hour and a half. She will carry about twentyfive cartloads.

I haul it out on my land as soon as I get it, in heaps, as before stated. The reason that I do not spread immediately is, that it is so wet and lumpy, and by letting them remain over winter, the frost slacks them, and in the spring they spread like ashes. I think that muscles will do much better on clayey land than on gravelly land. I know of places on the shores of Massachusetts where a man could drive his team off on the ice to muscle beds at low water, and get muscles in the winter when he could do nothing else.

I know of a farmer about forty miles from this place, who cuts annually one hundred tons of hay; all his stock consists of one cow and two yoke of oxen. Another instance I know of, in this town, where one scow load of muscles was put on the land eighteen years ago, and has had nothing done to it since, and still cuts a good crop of hay. I have now on my land twelve scow loads ready to spread in the spring, and next fall I will write you the result. I have given you all the information in my power respecting muscles.

Respectfully, yours, &c.

GEO. E. TYLER.

Live honestly, hurt nobody, and render to every one his due. To these three general precepts, Justinian has reduced the whole doctrine of law.—*Blackstone.*

To divest milk of the taste of turnips, &c. upon which cows have been fed, put into each pail of milk, when fresh drawn from the cows, one pint of boiling water. The heat of the water dispels the odor of the turnip, which becomes volatile as the temperature of the milk is increased. This has been practiced by the writer, and proved to be effectual.—*Selected.*

Substitute for Glazed Frames in Hot-beds.—In the *Rheinlandische Gartenzeitung* is described a substitute for the glazed frames of hot-beds and green-houses, which deserves the attention of florists. Instead of glass, the frames are covered with a fine white cloth of cotton. In order to render this more transparent, and enable it to resist moisture, it is covered with a preparation, the ingredients of which are four ounces of pulverized dry white cheese, two ounces of white slacked lime, and four ounces of boiled linseed oil. These three ingredients having been mixed with each other, four ounces of the white of eggs, and as much of the yolk, are added, and the mixture is then made liquid by heating. The oil combines easily with the other ingredients, and the varnish remains pliable and quite transparent.

The expense of a forcing bed arranged in this manner is inconsiderable, and it yields at the same time many other advantages. Such a hot-bed needs not the anxious attention required by the ordinary ones covered with glazed frames. During the strongest rays of the mid-day sun they do not require any particular covering or shade; the atmosphere therein preserves a nearly equal temperature almost the whole day, and requires only to be changed from time to time, according to circumstances. If such a bed is provided with a soil of horse-dung, and a proper thickness of some fertile, finely sifted mould is spread thereon, layers of all sorts of flowers, early vegetables, and other plants, may be reared from seeds in it.—*Annals of Chemistry.*

Guano.—The Liverpool United Brokers' Circular states that 2000 tons of the new manure called guano, have been recently sold in this town, at from 10*l.* to 12*l.* per ton. This quantity will raise ten thousand acres of turnips, as four cwt. per acre has been found sufficient for that purpose. With that quantity, which at the present price will cost only two pounds, we ourselves raised larger crops of turnips last year than we were able to raise with eight pounds' worth of common manure.

If the original importers of this valuable manure had been satisfied to offer it to the public at the present price, the consumption would have been ten times as great as it is now; for having tried guano with every description of crop, we do not hesitate to pronounce it the cheapest and most valuable manure ever introduced into this country. As we are buyers, not sellers of the article, our praise of it is at least disinterested.—*Liverpool Times.*

Remarkable Plowing Match.—A plowing match lately took place in the vicinity of Cleland House, Lanarkshire, which excited considerable interest from the novel circumstance of the rival plowmen being two Members of Parliament—Capt. Dalrymple and Edward Horsman, Esq. Both went to work like old hands, and produced capital furrows. The land plowed by them was named, amid deafening cheers, "The Members' Acre." This is as it should be; and we congratulate the landed aristocracy in possessing members who are disposed to acquire knowledge of agricultural pursuits, with a view to promote the interests of their tenants, instead of squandering away in scenes of fashionable frivolity, the hard-earned money wrung from an over-taxed and oppressed peasantry.—*Scotch paper.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1843.

SPRING WORK.

The cold and snows of the present month, will cause farmers to be later than usual in commencing the operations of plowing, sowing and planting. For this reason, there is more than ordinary need of laying the most economical plans that are possible in the way of saving labor. Such work as can be done while the snow is on the ground, should be attended to forthwith.

The tools may be looked up and put in good order; fencing stuff may be fitted for use; the topping of willows, poplars, &c. to obtain summer fuel, may be done; old apple trees, &c. may have their dead branches removed and worked up.

Those who have their manure under cover, may perhaps take it, or at least a part of it, to the fields. Whether this will be a good course, may turn upon the probable driving or press of work upon the team in the latter part of April and in May. There will be some waste to the manure if taken out now and dropped upon the snow, but then it is not improbable that this loss will be compensated by the better opportunity to plow and harrow thoroughly, and to get the seed in the ground at the best season. As to this, each farmer must judge for himself. The manure, if put in a compact and well formed heap, and covered with snow enough to prevent much evaporation until the probable time when a coating of soil or meadow mud can be applied to it, probably will not waste much. We have put out the most of ours already in small heaps, to be spread and plowed in as soon as the state of the land will permit. We have two reasons for this—our team will not be adequate to carrying it out comfortably while the ground is soft—and our work will be thrown back too much by delaying the carting of the manure until the time of planting. We will not maintain that we have practiced good husbandry in doing as we have done—but we were willing to make the experiment.

The Compost Heap.

Those who provided swamp mud or peaty matters last autumn or during the past winter, may put their manure in a heap and cover it well with the mud; after the manure has become warm, let the whole be thrown over, and a little dry slaked lime or some ashes be evenly mixed in; then put a thin coating of mud or soil over the whole and pat it with the shovel. The mud that is intermixed and that that makes the covering, will be penetrated by the gaseous ammonia of the dung and will make good manure. By processes like this, the manure heap may be much increased in value. The common representation is that where the process of composting is properly conducted, one load of dung, a cask of lime or its equivalent in ashes, and two load of swamp muck, will be as valuable as three loads of dung. We presume it is; but we would not advise inexperienced hands to put more mud than they do dung; especially where the compost is to be used this spring.

Early Peas.

We would say to farmers who raise peas only for their own use, and who yet like to get them in pretty good season, plow your land well as soon as it is in a good state for working; then cover the ground well with horse dung or other warm manure; then back-furrow or ridge up the ground, and put the peas *on the ridge*—they will do much better *up there*, than they will put upon manure that is buried in a furrow. Or if you will have all the manure in the drill, then just make a little mark along the surface of the ground and cover the mark with the manure; then with the plow turn up the soil and make a ridge over the manure and put your seed on the ridge. Hill's Early and the Cedo nulli are the earliest.

Early Potatoes.

Prepare your ground in the same way, and set your seed, the small or seed end up. Let this end come near the surface of the ridge. These early vegetables will do much better if the seed is put up on a ridge than if put down in the furrow.

If you are anxious to get them quite early, you may sprout them in a box, set in some warm place, and when you come to plant, be careful not to break off the sprouts.

THOROUGH WORKING OF THE SOIL.

It is a common fault with our farmers to plant and sow before they properly prepare the ground. There is too much of the "cut and cover' system in our plowing: we generally take too wide furrows and of too little depth. Thorough plowing, excepting on some new and light lands, is highly serviceable to the after growth. The English and Scotch mode is to plow not more than 9 inches wide, where the furrows are 8 or 9 deep. We should do well to conform our practices in this respect much more nearly to theirs than we now do. But the slighting is not limited to the work by the plow; we do not use the roller and harrow (or drag) enough. We mention the roller here, because this instrument ought in most cases to follow the plow immediately; where it does it crushes lumps and puts the soil in a state to be well pulverized by the harrow. A harrowing, after the roller, we know is much more serviceable than it is where the roller has not passed. The common habit too, of considering the ground as having been harrowed enough, when the team has drawn over the ground once a frame in which teeth are set six inches apart, is a bad one. The harrow should go North and South, East and West, North east and South-west, North-west and South-east. When this has been well done, the land may be fitted to receive the seed.

This thorough pulverizing of the soil, we recommend as a process that gives a speedy return; we believe that the first crop is enough larger to pay for the extra labor.

We had the curiosity, the other day, to look into a book upon the homœopathic system of medicine. What we think of the system, is of no consequence. But we there found the advocates of that system maintaining that the thorough grindings or rubbings to which they subject their medicines, greatly develope their latent powers, and cause them to be highly efficacious in exceedingly minute doses. Whether this be so or not, we could not help thinking that the grinding down and thorough pulverization of the soil would greatly multiply the powers of that, and cause wonders as great as any of the many astonishing medical cures of the day.

PLAYFAIR ON MILK.

The article on our first page, copied from the London Athenæum, is apparently only a concise and hasty report of the leading points of an extended lecture. We should be glad to learn a few things more than this article states, before we can estimate the value of its deductions. Was the whole of the milk which was drawn at evening or in the morning, well mixed together before a portion was taken out for analysis, or did Dr. Playfair take out what he wanted for his purpose, without noticing whether it was of the first or of the last drawn? All who are familiar with the dairy, know that the last drawn quart is much richer in cream than the first. Did Dr. Playfair regard this fact and take a fair average? We know nothing to the contrary. If he did, the analyses may be of much value—but if he did not, we should regard them as worthless. Presuming that he did, his inference that the cow will make more butter from the same quantity of milk, if kept in the stall, than if turned out to pasture, seems to be perfectly fair.

There comes up a question here, which we are inclined to put to dairymen, though we can make no answer to it. As exercise takes the butter from the milk, and as the last drawn milk is the richest, we wish to ask whether *time* may not cause the butter to diminish? The milk that is drawn *last*, is, more likely than otherwise, the last that is formed. Now, may it not be that from the time it is formed in he cow until it is drawn from her, the milk is giving off a part of its butter to be consumed by the oxygen of the cow's breath? Should it be so, then there will be much economy in milking often.

The assertion in that article that "potatoes are particularly favorable to the production of butter, from the starch they contain," we receive with much distrust. That they contain much starch, and therefore *ought* on the principles of Liebig and Playfair, to produce much butter, is obviously correct; but that they *do* furnish milk that is rich in cream, is, we think, opposed to the common observation of those who are accustomed to feed and milk cows.

That the milk is formed, not from the food directly, but that the food first becomes flesh, and is then changed from tissues into milk, we are not surprised to hear advanced, because we know that when cows are first removed from a short pasture to abundant feed, there is but little if any increase of milk at the first milking—even at the second the increase is much less than on the following day.

All these deductions of science are interesting and valuable. Those who are trying to throw light upon agriculture from the laboratory, are already helping us to understand many things that have been mysterious; and they give promise of furnishing more and more instruction every year.

MR BARTLETT'S ARTICLE ON FERTILIZERS.

We have given much space to the article of Mr Bartlett, of Warner, N. H., because the accounts we have received of him, lead us to suppose that he is the most thoroughly scientific of all the *laboring* farmers of New England; and because the article itself contains many valuable opinions and facts. The suggestion that the exposure of the dried turf of a sandy soil to the action of fire, will give us a very valuable fertilizer, is worthy of remembrance, and of being put into practice next August or September, by hundreds of farmers.

☞It will be seen by the advertisment, that the price of Dr. Dana's Muck Manual has been reduced to 62 1-2 cts. Cheap enough for so valuable a work. For sale at Breck & Co.'s Agricultural Warehouse.

He that to what he sees, adds observation, and to what he reads reflection, is in the right road to knowledge, provided that, in scrutinizing the hearts of others, he neglects not his own.—*Lacon.*

Nothing more completely baffles one who is full of trick and duplicity himself, than straight-forward and simple integrity in another.—*Ib.*

THERMOMETRICAL

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending March 26.

March, 1843.	7, A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	20	31	29	N.
Tuesday,	21	26	34	31	N. W.
Wednesday,	22	14	32	28	N. E.
Thursday,	23	22	38	18	E.
Friday,	24	10	40	33	N.
Saturday,	25	18	40	30	S.
Sunday,	26	22	36	26	N. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, March 27, 1843.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At Market 475 Beef Cattle, 870 Swine. 50 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—The prices obtained last week for the like quality were hardly sustained. A small number Extra $5.12 a $5.25. First quality $4.75 a 5.00. Second quality, $4.25 a $4.50. Third quality, $3.75 a 4.25.

Sheep.—None at market.

Swine.—A lot to peddle, prime quality, 4 for sows and 5 for barrows. Also a lot 3 3-4 and 4 3-4. A lot of old hogs 4 3-4. At retail, from 4 1-2 to 6.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 25 to 2 50 per bushel. Red Top, 40 to 50 cents. Clover—Northern, 12 to 13c.—Southern, 8 a 9 c. Flax Seed, $1 75 per bushel. Lucerne, 30 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $4 00 per bushel.

GRAIN. Duty, Corn, Rye and Beans, free; Barley 20 per cent.; Oats 20 per cent.

There have been no arrivals of any importance since the last report, and prices for Corn have improved about 2 cents per bush.

Corn—Northern, old, bushel 56 to 58—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 54 a 55—do. do. white 51 a 52—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a — —Rye, Northern, 00 a 60—do. Southern, 00 a 55—Oats, Southern, 27 a 29—Northern do. 30 to 31—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. — a —Bran, — a—.

FLOUR. The supplies having come in slowly from the South and from New Orleans, sellers have rather had the advantage of the market.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 25 a 4 37 —do. wharf, $0 00 a 4 12 do. free of garlic, $4 25 a 4 37 —Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 12½ a 0 00 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $4 12½ a 0 00—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 4 12 a 0 00 —Georgetown, $4 25 a 4 37—Richmond Canal, $0 00 a 4 25 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 87 a 5 00— do fancy brands $5 00 a 5 25 — Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 50 a 4 75. Rye, $0 00 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 87 a 3 00.

PROVISIONS.—There has been a good demand for Provisions during the past week, and prices are rather better supported.

Beef—Mess 4 no. new bbl. $7 50 a 8 00—Navy—$7 00 a 0 00.—No. 1, 6 00 a 6 25—do Prime $4 00 a 4 50—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $11 00 a 00 00—do Clear $10 00 a 10 50 do. Mess, 8 25 a 8 75—do Prime $6 00 a 6 50—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 a 0 00— —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 9 a 11—do store, uninspected, 9 a 14—do dairy, 15 a 17,—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 6 a 00 — do South and Western, 6— a 00 —. Hams, Boston, 7 a 0 — Southern and Western, 0 a 0—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 5—do new milk, 5 a 6.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 30 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

There have been further sales of American fleece at former prices.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 35 a 37 c.—American full blood, do 32 a 33—Do. 3-4 do 22 a 00—Do. 1-2 do 28 a 30—1-4 and common do 25 a 27 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 23—Do. unwashed, 10 a 13—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 26 a 30—No. 1 do. do. do. 23 a 25—No. 2 do do do 15 a 20—No. 3 do do do 12 a 15.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

Sales New Hampshire inspection, 50 bales, for foreign shipment, at 11 cents, cash.

1st sort Mass. 1842, lb. 12 a 12½. 2d do. do. do. 0 a 0.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 12.

CHEESE—Shipping and 4 meal, 6 to 8c.—New 9 to 11.

EGGS, 16 a 18.

CAMBRIDGEPORT NURSERY.

SAMUEL POND, Nurseryman, Columbia street, Cambridgeport, has for sale, a choice assortment of Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Roots and Vines. Among them are the best variety of Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Peach, Apricot, Grape Vines, Asparagus, Rhubarb, Pear Stocks, Apple do., Plum do. Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, &c.

TREES of an extra size always on hand, and will be delivered in any part of the city, *free of expense.*

Also an extra fine lot of Dwarf Pear and Apple Trees.

Orders left at the Nursery will be filled the succeeding day, carefully packed to go with safety to any part of the country.

Mareh 29.

WINSHIPS.

Received by recent arrivals from France and England, 500 large Orange and Dessert Portugal and Standard QUINCE TREES, six or more feet in height, very desirable productions for every Horticulturist to possess, being the large kind of fruit. Several thousand fine Pear and Apple Stocks, by the hundred or thousand. Also, by the same arrivals, the usual importations of new fruit bearing Trees among them a large quantity of handsome Bartlett Pear Trees, and Ornamental productions, all of which can be had immediately, by forwarding orders by mail, addressed to WINSHIPS', Brighton, Mass., or left at JOSEPH BRECK & CO.'S, 51 & 52 North Market street, Boston. March 29.

Fruit, Ornamental Trees, &c.

NURSERY OF WILLIAM KENRICK.

OF PEAR and PLUM, of PEACH and CHERRY TREES—a collection unrivalled in former years, for fine trees of new and finest kinds. Fruits most valuable, more rare, being just received from Europe in new supplies, of things also uncommon, and beautiful, or no where else to be obtained.

Gooseberries of first quality, Apples, Quinces, Grape Vines, Raspberries, Currants, Strawberries, &c. The new abridged and descriptive Catalogue for 1842 will be sent to all who apply.

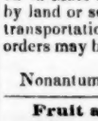
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Honeysuckles, &c. Splendid varieties of double yellow Harrison and other Roses—of Tree Peonies, of Herbaceous Peonies, of Double Dahlias, and other flowering Plants, &c. Rhubarb of first rate newest kinds, Thorns for hedges, &c.

All orders addressed to the subscriber will be promptly attended to, and Trees, when so ordered, will be securely packed in Mats and Moss for safe transport to all distant places by land or sea, and delivered in the city free of charge, for transportation by the wagon which is sent thither daily, or orders may be left with any of the authorised agents in Boston.

WILLIAM KENRICK.

Nonantum Hill, Newton, March 18, 1843. eptJ1

Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs.



The subscribers can furnish every variety of Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs which can be obtained at the Nurseries in the vicinity of Boston, at low prices, and of the first quality, and pack them securely, so that they can be sent to any part of the country in safety.

Those who may be in want of Trees will be well accommodated by sending their orders to the subscribers at No. 52 North Market Street.

March 22. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

EARLY PEAS.

The subscribers have received, by the barque Niagara, a large supply of EARLY PEAS—among which are

Cedo Nulli,—Early Frame,—Early Warwick,—Bishop's Early Dwarf,—Blue Imperial. Also on hand

Early Washington,—Early Dwarf,—Early Hill's,—Dwarf Marrowfats,—Tall do., &c.

March 22. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

QUINCE SEED.

20 lbs. fresh Quince Seed, for sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO. No. 51 & 52 North Market street. March 29.

YOUNG FARMER WANTED.

A young man is wanted on a farm—he must be well qualified to take care of Stock, and be familiar with the duties of a farm. The best testimonials will be required. To such a person permanent employ will be given. March 29.

Nonantum Vale Gardens and Nurseries.

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN,

BRIGHTON, MASS.

Green House Plants, Fruit Trees, Vines, &c Rare and beautiful specimens of Green House Plants, constantly for sale Particular attention has been given to the cultivation of the Strawberry, Raspberry, Gooseberry and Currant.

Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Peach, Apricot, and Nectarine Trees.

Grape Vines, Rhubarb, Asparagus, Dahlia and Peony Roots.

Flowering Shrubs, and Herbaceous Plants of every variety.

Orders left at the Nursery, or at the Counting Room, 78 Washington street, Boston, or directed by mail, to Brighton, will meet with prompt and careful attention and every purchase will be warranted true to its name. tf March 22.

POUDRETTE AS A MANURE.

This valuable fertilizer has been extensively used during the past five years in the vicinity of New York. One farmer on Long Island has used more than 3500 bushels, another over 1900 bushels and several others more than a 1000 bushels each, with entire success, manufactured by the *New York Poudrette Company.* The subscriber was the first American who undertook the business in this country, and he has manufactured it in *larger* quantities than any, probably than *all*, others who have attempted the manufacture. Of the *quality* he leaves others, who use it, to judge—relying upon his experience and knowledge of the business, and his *interest* in furnishing a good article for customers.

☞ Present price $1 50 per barrel for ten or more barrels, or $5 for three barrels delivered on board of vessel. Orders by mail, enclosing the cash, promptly attended to, and pamphlets with *directions* sent to those who desire them, on applying to D. K. MINOR, agent 118 Nassau st,, New York.

Feb. 15. 6w

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDENER.

A young man who has served his apprenticeship in Europe, who understands Nursery, Flower, and kitchen Gardening and forcing in all its various branches, and who has had four years experience in this country, wishes a situation in any private or public establishment. Can furnish the best reference.

A line addressed to J. S. at this office, will command immediate attention. Feb. 15.

SCIONS! SCIONS!

The subscriber is now enabled to supply Scions of the very best varieties of *Pear, Apple, Plum,* and *Cherry.*

Having a very large number of specimen Fruit Trees in his Gardens, from which fruits have been gathered, is a surety that the Scions can be relied on as *genuine.*

Communications upon the subject relative to the varieties and qualities, or to quantity and price, directed to the subscriber will be promptly responded to and orders executed with dispatch.

Large quantities will be furnished at reduced rates.

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

Nonantum Vale, Brighton, Feb. 13th, 1843.

POUDRETTE! POUDRETTE!!

The subscribers keep constantly on hand and for sale, Poudrette in quantities to suit purchasers; packed in Barrels in order for shipping, or transportation by wagon or Rail Road.

The experience of five years past has satisfied many farmers, that this manure has the quickest operation upon vegetable matter, producing greater abundance, and is the cheapest manure they have ever tried.

Orders left at the New England Seed Store, and at the factory in Brookline, will meet with prompt attention.

For sale by J. BRECK & CO, 51 and 52 North Market st., Boston. Oct. 26.

BUCKTHORNS FOR HEDGES.

10,000 Buckthorn plants, averaging about one foot in height. Also, Pear Trees, standard and dwarf, of the new and fine varieties, for sale by JOHN C. LEE, at his Nursery, in Dearborn street, North Salem. 6w. March 15.

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDENER.

An experienced gardener, well acquainted with the various branches of the business, and who can procure satisfactory, testimonial, both from his late employer and the most celebrated and practical gardeners in this part of the country, wants a situation. Address D. C., at the office of the N. E. Farmer. Boston, Feb. 1, 1843.

MUCK MANUAL.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., The Muck Manual for Farmers. By Dr S. L. Dana; price 62½.

Boston, April 13.

LACTOMETERS—a simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale by J. BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Lion's Law.—A laughable incident took place in Liverpool recently. A man connected with Mr Wright's menagerie, exhibiting in that town, was arrested for debt. After some conversation with the sheriff's officer, he invited him in to view the collection of animals, previous to his accompanying him to "durance vile." The officer agreeing, they entered the enclosure, and the menagerie man after describing to his *friend* each of the animals, concluded his politeness by entering the cage with the lion, which latter feat highly pleased the officer, who was waiting to conduct his entertaining friend to prison. Finally he notified the man of the menagerie that he was ready to go—but, judge of the officer's consternation, when the man in the cage assured him that *he* was not ready to go, but preferred the company of the lions of the forest to the lions of the law, and said it was his intention to stay where he was until after twelve o'clock on that (Saturday) night, when the strong arm of the law would be powerless. Threats and persuasions were alike unavailing; all the satisfaction that the officer and his attendants, whom he had called to his aid, could get from the man with the lions was, that if they wanted him, they might come and take him. Not having the spunk to "beard the lion in his den," they declined the invitation. After some time the plaintiff appeared, and was so well pleased with the joke, that an amicable arrangement took place.—*English paper.*

Syllogisms by Dogs.—There is a chapter in one of our metaphysical works showing how dogs make syllogisms. The illustration is decisive. Thus, a dog loses sight of its master, and follows him by scent till the road branches into three; he smells at the first, and at the second, and then, without smelling further, gallops along the third. That animals should be found to possess in perfection every faculty which is necessary for their well-being, is nothing wonderful: the wonder would be if they did not. But they sometimes display a reach of intellect beyond this. For instance, dogs have a sense of time, so as to count the days of the week. My grandfather had one who trudged two miles ever Saturday to market, to cater for himself in the shambles. I know another more extraordinary and well-authenticated example. A dog which had belonged to an Irishman, and was sold by him in England, would never touch a morsel of food upon a Friday; the Irishman had made him as good a Catholic as himself. This dog never forsook the sick bed of his master, and when he died, refused to eat, and died also.—*Southey.*

An Intelligent Dog.—A friend of ours in an eastern city, relates the following anecdote of his Newfoundland dog. On a certain Sunday, after church, the family were all assembled in the drawing room, and every member of it, with one exception, occupied in reading. The dog, after making a *reconnoissance* of the party, proceeded of his own accord to the library, and taking down a book from the shelves, returned and presented it to the individual who was unprovided with one.—*Troy Whig.*

What word is that of six letters from which two may be taken and nine remain? **Be-*nign.***

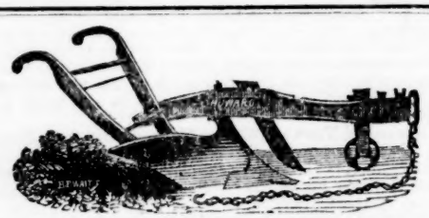
A Practical Jest.—A man named Moore, who deals in young trees, shrubs, seedlings, and other juvenile vegetables, near Carlow, was knocked up, lately, at an unseasonable hour, by a traveller, who asked if he did not keep a "nursery." "Yes," said he. "Well, then, here's something in your line." Before he could open the door, his customer had gone off at a smart trot, and left a nice little child on the threshold.—*English pap.*

The best distinction we ever heard drawn between railway and coach accidents, was that given by an old knight of the whip. "If," said he, "you gets comfortably capsized from a coach into a ditch by the roadside, *there you are*; but if you gets blown up by an engine, run off the track, or run into by another, *where are you?*"—*Ib.*

Dr. Lathrop was a man of genuine piety, but much opposed to the noisy zeal that seeketh the praise of men. A young divine who was much given to enthusiastic cant, one day said to him, "Do you suppose you have any *real religion?*" "None to *speak* of," was the excellent reply.

Moderate Drinking.—Old Guzzlefunction having drunk nine mugs of cider at a neighbor's house one evening, observed upon rising to leave, "I believe, neighbor T., I'll take a *leetle* more of your cider. I love good cider as well as any body, but as for swilling it down as *some* people do, I never could."

A man told his Irish servant to wake him at six o'clock. Pat waked him at four—observing, that "he came to tell him he had two hours yet to sleep."



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

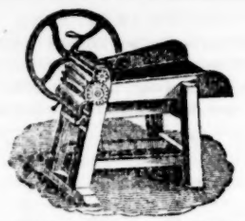
At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.



GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

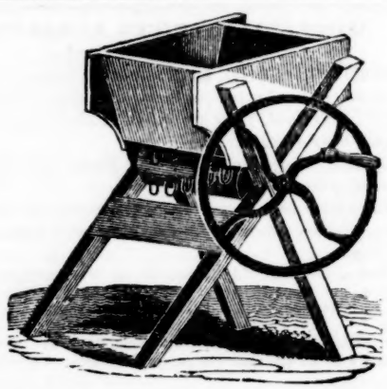
JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.



WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.

This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market st.

TYE UP CHAINS.

Just received by 500 Chains for tyeing up Cattle.

These chains, introduced by E. H. DERBY, Esq. of Salem, and Col. JACUES, for the purpose of securing cattle to the stall, are found to be the safest and most convenient mode of fasteuing cows and oxen to the stanchion.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.
200 " Truck and leading Chains.
200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.